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### Seminar trains leaders to reduce prejudice, conflict

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

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Sept. 12, 2001

**Contact:** Kaycee Schilke, campus NCBI director, 243-5754 or [kschilke@mso.umt.edu](mailto:kschilke@mso.umt.edu).

### **SEMINAR TRAINS LEADERS TO REDUCE PREJUDICE, CONFLICT**

#### **MISSOULA--**

People from all walks of life can develop their leadership skills in reducing conflict and discrimination at an upcoming University of Montana seminar.

The three-day Training of Trainers seminar will be held Friday, Sept. 28, through Sunday, Sept. 30, in the University Center.

The seminar will be facilitated by staff from the National Coalition Building Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based organization that works to end prejudice and conflict among all groups. NCBI's Missoula and UM affiliates will host the seminar.

"NCBI is about hearing stories, healing hurts and becoming allies for change," said Missoula chapter director Amie Thurber. "I have found that people are hungry to connect with one another. Our workshops bring diverse groups together."

Seminar participants will learn to lead two unique NCBI programs: the Prejudice Reduction Workshop and the Controversial Issues Dialogue.

The Prejudice Reduction Workshop is a participatory one-day program that works to reduce prejudice and discrimination by increasing awareness. Participants learn to challenge offensive comments without being confrontational and to act as constructive allies on behalf of



other groups.

The Controversial Issues Dialogue is a step-by-step method that helps individuals and communities effectively resolve conflict. The process allows groups to move hotly contested issues forward and find common ground.

Trainer Christy Schilke said, "Every NCBI workshop I lead or attend leaves me in astonishment and with lots of food for thought, as well as renewing my ever-growing commitment and desire to do this work I hold close to my heart."

The seminar cost is on a sliding-scale basis of \$100 to \$300, and the deadline to register is Tuesday, Sept. 18. To receive a brochure with registration information, contact Kaycee Schilke at 243-5754 or [kschilke@mso.umt.edu](mailto:kschilke@mso.umt.edu).

More information about NCBI is available online at [www.ncbi.org](http://www.ncbi.org).

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